



## APPENDIX D

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#### 2004 Recreation Issues Survey – Ball State University

**We would like to ask you about the issues surrounding local provision of parks and recreation in your community. Thank you for your responses.**

1. Which of these do you have in your community? Please check all that apply:

- ☐ Park and Recreation Department
- ☐ Park Board (or Park and Recreation Board)

2. Which of these best describes you, the respondent? Please fill in one box:

- ☐ Employee of Municipal Park and Recreation Department
- ☐ Employee of Township Park and Recreation Department
- ☐ Employee of County Park and Recreation Department
- ☐ Member of Park Board
- ☐ Other (please describe):

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3. Which level of government is the park department with which you are associated? (Check one)

- ☐ County ☐ Municipal (City or town)
- ☐ Township ☐ Other (please explain)

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4. What is the approximate size of the population served by the park department with which you work?

- ☐ 4,999 or less ☐ 5,000-9,999 ☐ 10,000-49,999 ☐ 50,000-149,999
- ☐ 150,000 or more

5. Overall, what are the biggest issues your park department faces in planning for the future?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Are there any groups of people in your community that are a priority or main focus for the park and recreation department (e.g., age groups, persons with disabilities, socioeconomic groups, racial or ethnic groups, etc.)?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- c. \_\_\_\_\_



*Park Department Activities*

7. How does the park department promote its programs/services? Check all that apply:

- |  |   |                                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pamphlets or Flyers             | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspapers               | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Mail                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Web Site                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Park and Recreation Logo |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informational Signs or Displays |   |                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above               | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe)  |                                     |

8. Does the park department coordinate with any of these local groups to provide recreation?

	Yes, frequently	Occasionally	No, not at all
Local Schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Civic Organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volunteer Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clubs and Organizations, e.g., Little League	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial Recreation Providers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-profit Recreation Providers, e.g., YMCA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conventions and Visitors Bureau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Units of Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighborhood Associations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Interest Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Care Providers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



9. In the next 5 years, does the park department expect to **add any new capital projects** from the following list to your park and recreation areas? Please check all that apply:

List A: Land Development	List B: Sports and Activities	List C: Buildings/Infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/> New land acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Single-use trail <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-use trail <input type="checkbox"/> Rails-to-trails project <input type="checkbox"/> Nature/interpretive trail <input type="checkbox"/> Water access, e.g. boat ramp <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland or Pond <input type="checkbox"/> Garden or Picnic area <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage/irrigation/flood control project	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball/volleyball court <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/softball diamond <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer field/athletic field <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis court <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Skatepark <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Park <input type="checkbox"/> Archery or shooting range <input type="checkbox"/> Community Center <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor recreational facility <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting system <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance building <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter house <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative building <input type="checkbox"/> Other buildings (e.g., restrooms, concession stand, nature center) <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Campgrounds

10. In the next 5 years, do you expect to **renovate/refurbish** any of the following? Please check all that apply:

List A: Land Development	List B: Sports and Activities	List C: Buildings/Infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/> Single-use trail <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-use trail <input type="checkbox"/> Rails-to-trails project <input type="checkbox"/> Nature/interpretive trail <input type="checkbox"/> Water access, e.g. boat ramp <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland or Pond <input type="checkbox"/> Garden or Picnic area <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage/irrigation/flood control project	<input type="checkbox"/> Basketball/volleyball court <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball/softball diamond <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer field/athletic field <input type="checkbox"/> Tennis court <input type="checkbox"/> Playground <input type="checkbox"/> Skatepark <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Park <input type="checkbox"/> Archery or shooting range <input type="checkbox"/> Community Center <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Center	<input type="checkbox"/> Parking lot <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor recreational facility <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting system <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance building <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter house <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative building <input type="checkbox"/> Other buildings (e.g., restrooms, concession stand, nature center) <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming Pool <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Facility <input type="checkbox"/> Campgrounds



11. Please select the top three issues of importance to your park and recreation agency: Please rank 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>:

- \_\_\_ Staffing
- \_\_\_ Staff training and development
- \_\_\_ Competition from other recreation providers
- \_\_\_ Level of public participation
- \_\_\_ Land for recreation
- \_\_\_ Amount of facilities available
- \_\_\_ Perceived value of parks and recreation
- \_\_\_ Number of programs offered
- \_\_\_ Communication issues
- \_\_\_ ADA Compliance
- \_\_\_ Safety

12. Which projects/programs are the first to be eliminated when budget cuts are inevitable? (Please check one):

- ☐ Mow less grass
- ☐ Hire fewer people/let people go
- ☐ Stop offering programs
- ☐ Cut back on or cancel capital projects
- ☐ Maintain facilities less
- ☐ Close recreational facilities
- ☐ Sell park properties
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

13. What alternative funding strategies is your park department pursuing for the future? (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Friends of parks group
- ☐ Park foundation
- ☐ Donations
- ☐ Fees
- ☐ Public-private partnerships
- ☐ Grants
- ☐ Sponsorships
- ☐ Taxes
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

14. What is the 2003 legally appropriated budget for your park and recreation department? \_\_\_\_\_

15. How many years have you worked in/with the parks and recreation profession?

\_\_\_\_\_

16. What is your gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

17. What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_



18. Please respond to the following by circling the number that most applies to your park system:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My park board members see outdoor recreation as essential to the economic health of my community.	1	2	3	4	5
Our town council members (or county commissioners) see outdoor recreation as essential to the economic health of my community.	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation is perceived as valuable to people in my community.	1	2	3	4	5
People in my community support spending for parks and recreation.	1	2	3	4	5
My park board members see outdoor recreation as contributing to the overall health of the citizens in this community.	1	2	3	4	5
Our town council members (or county commissioners) see outdoor recreation as contributing to the overall health of the citizens in this community.	1	2	3	4	5
Bringing facilities into ADA compliance is a concern for my agency.	1	2	3	4	5
My agency regularly markets/promotes facilities and programs to the community.	1	2	3	4	5
Coordinating volunteers for parks and recreation in our community is a challenge.	1	2	3	4	5
My park department does very well responding to the recreational needs of my community.	1	2	3	4	5
My park and recreation system helps to attract people into my community.	1	2	3	4	5



Demand for outdoor recreation is growing faster than we can develop recreational opportunities.	1	2	3	4	5
My park and recreation system is helping to keep residents here.	1	2	3	4	5
The park systems throughout the state are helping to keep residents in Indiana.	1	2	3	4	5

19. Do you have any other comments or feedback?

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***Thank you for your time.***

***Please return to Amy Sheaffer, NREM Dept., WQ 114, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306.***